**St. Nicholas Parish Pastoral Council**

**May 25, 2021 ZOOM Meeting**

**Present:** Father Joseph Tito**,** Nora Bondi, Sheila Hebein, Cynthia Judge, Traci Laffey, Suzanne Lefevre, Jose Juan Moreno Betsy Quinn, Yvonne Smith,

**Absent:** Juan Jose Velazquez

**Guest:** Father Tom Baldonieri

Meeting began at 7:03 p.m. with a welcome to Fr. Baldonieri, the new Administrator for St. Nicholas.

**Opening Prayer** – led by Fr. Tito

**Approval of April 13, 2021 Minutes**

* Nora made a motion to accept the minutes, Betsy seconded and they were accepted unanimously.

**Father Tito- Pastor’s Report**

* **Interfaith Action of Evanston** is raising funds for the renovation of their Hospitality Center. St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, which houses the Center has raised 85% of the $603,000 needed. The renovation will include accessibility updates, improvement to the bathrooms, etc.. There will be an article in this week’s bulletin, inviting parishioners to contribute. (Nora gave an endorsement to the St. Nick’s Newsletter, which highlights important topics, with a link to the corresponding bulletin article.)
* There will be a **Service Trip** this summer. (Last year, the trip was cancelled because of COVID.) Twelve people will definitely be going, they may add another van and take 18. There may be some fundraising involved.
* **Pope John XXIII:** It has been a good year for enrollment with 240 students, 95 from St. Nicholas. There were new students this year from District 65, families who wanted in person learning. Most of them are staying. The enrollment for the next school year is 260. Currently, there is a process going on to determine who the recipients of the Scholarships will be for next year.
* **New Assignment**: Father Tito will become an Associate Pastor at Holy Name Cathedral. Fr. Greg Sakowitz (former pastor of St. Mary’s in Evanston) is the rector there and asked Fr. Tito to consider the assignment and he agreed. His last day as pastor of St. Nicholas is June 30th.

**PPC Reports**

* **Mass Survey Update**: The Reopening Leadership Team has sent out a survey to the English-speaking community about the Mass schedule. Because we are hoping for more responses, and to include the opinions of more than one person in a family completing the survey (if they have different preferences), the deadline for completing the survey is extended until June 2nd.
* **Archdiocesan Update re COVID-19 guidelines:** Masks will still be required until the State of Illinois goes to Phase 5. (The Archdiocese allows parishioners who have been vaccinated to bring proof of vaccination and then don’t have to wear masks IF there are enough volunteers to monitor that. We don’t have those volunteers.) Our capacity has been increased to 170. Many families with young children (those who can’t yet be vaccinated) are staying away from in-person Masses.
* **First Communion – Feedback** The livestream went well and it gave many godparents, grandparents, friends and relatives the opportunity to attend virtually. Confirmation was also successfully streamed.

**Other Business:**

* **New cameras:** Ace and Maureen are in the process of getting estimates to upgrade our cameras. They will be mounted on the walls and will be much more efficient.
* **Renew My Church:** Tom Lenz and Mary Burke Peterson have offered to do a town hall after the 10:15 Mass on June 27th (or possibly June 13th). They would share their experiences of being facilitators for RMC, and answer questions about the process**.**
* **Father Baldonieri** said that he was looking forward to coming to the parish. He took questions from PPC members.
* **Religious Education:** It is unclear if Pope John XXIII School will be able to share its building with Religious Education students. Jose Chavez is in Colombia, will be back in the office on June 11th and wants to get families registered for next year.
* **New PPC Members:** Father Tito would like to have 3 people from the Spanish speaking community join the Council by the August meeting.

**Closing Prayer** led by Father Baldonieri.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m..